

Just roughly 2 weeks earlier, Delaware had marked the second anniversary of the killing, in the line of duty, of another brave and decorated local police officer, Patrolman Chad Spicer of Georgetown. It was just too soon for this to have happened again. We all know there is risk—grave risk—in policing, but this could not have happened again. Delaware is a State of neighbors, and as a State we are still mourning Chad's death, and we could not possibly have lost another brave police officer. But we did. This Friday he will be laid to rest.

My State is grieving. In the days that have passed, I have grappled with two questions. I have asked myself over and over: How is it that people continue to do these terrible and dangerous things? How is it that senseless violence continues to claim the lives of the innocent?

As I spoke at the graduation ceremony this past Friday for the Delaware State Police and the Municipal Police Academy and looked at the young men and women who were right in front of me about to take their oath and put on their badge and take on, willingly, this most dangerous and honored profession, another question emerged to me: Why is it that we continue to have men and women who volunteer, who step forward, and who take on this most important and difficult task of preserving the peace, of protecting our communities? What more can we do to support them, to protect them, and to honor them?

These are the questions I challenge all of us to consider.

SGT Joe Szczerba was on the New Castle County police force for 18 years. He was greatly respected by his colleagues on the force and in the community he served. His wife Kathy; his brothers Ed, Gerald, and Stephen; his sisters Nancy and Karen and a host of nieces and nephews survive him.

Today, Heaven is a safer place because Joe Szczerba is on patrol. He was a good man and a great cop, and he died a hero. He died doing what he was called to do, and he died doing what he loved to do. For that, all of Delaware is grateful. We will treasure his memory and honor his sacrifice.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COONS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IRAN

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, recently, international media and diplomatic attention has focused on the inspiring stories of citizens across the Middle East and North Africa demanding greater participation in their government.

While the regime changes in Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia have certainly opened the door for democratic progress in a region long dominated by authoritarian rulers, we cannot allow these hopeful aspirations to monopolize our focus or distract our attention from the fact that brutal and oppressive regimes remain.

Today, I want to highlight an especially dangerous and odious regime—that of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and the mullahs in Tehran.

I am seriously concerned by Tehran's continued march toward a nuclear weapon. Earlier this month the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, published a report confirming the obvious—that Iran remains in violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions to halt its nuclear program, and that it is not cooperating with the IAEA.

We also know that the Iranian regime continues to increase its support for terrorist groups operating in Iraq; reports also indicate that it is providing weapons and assistance to the Assad regime in Damascus in its brutal crackdown on the Syrian people.

Iranian authorities, apparently fearful of the popular unrest that swept longtime leaders in Egypt and Tunisia from power—and which is currently threatening Bashar al-Assad's dictatorship in Syria—have cracked down on dissent and increased the arrest and detention of activists and opposition figures in the past months—even arresting young people with squirt guns.

One dissident whose case I have been following is Bahareh Hedayat, a student and women's rights activist. Bahareh was arrested in December 2009 for participating in Iran's prodemocracy student movement and placed in solitary confinement in the notorious Evin prison. After nearly 2 months of interrogation, she was sentenced to 9½ years in prison for her activism. Her 9½ year sentence included 5 years for "activities against the state," 2 years for insulting Supreme Leader Khamenei, and 6 months for insulting Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Iranian authorities also reinstated a 2-year sentence she received in connection with a 2006 women's rights protest that had been suspended.

While in prison, Bahareh has endured Evin's harsh conditions, interrogation, and a lengthy solitary confinement, all while being denied contact with her husband and family. She has kept her spirit and has even protested her detention and treatment with hunger strikes. However, detention has taken a toll on her and her health has deteriorated. Earlier this year she devel-

oped gall stones, and while it was clear that the prison's facilities could not provide adequate treatment, she was only allowed to seek outside care this month. After receiving treatment, she was promptly returned to prison last week.

Bahareh Hedayat and dissidents like her—those who have been brutally punished for seeking basic human freedoms—has shown great courage in confronting the brutality and intolerance of the Iranian regime. She and thousands of others have sacrificed immeasurably to bring about reform in Iran, the United States must show similar courage and do all in its power to support their vision of a peaceful, free, and democratic Iran.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ARICK MICHAEL DOBSON
TARR

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of PFC Class Arick Michael Dobson Tarr, who died at the young age of 20 on July 30, 2011, at Fort Lewis, in Tacoma, WA, where he was stationed. Private First Class Tarr was assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry at Fort Lewis and served his country with honor and distinction on a tour of duty in Afghanistan. He was preparing to leave in January to return to New Hampshire.

Americans across the country gathered recently to commemorate the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001, and to reflect on how the tragic events of that day changed our Nation and all Americans on a personal level. Although Arick was only 10 years old at the time, his life was forever changed by 9/11. That day sparked within him a desire to join the Army and defend the freedoms we hold dear.

Arick defended the American people with courage and distinction, receiving many awards for his service, including the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Marksmanship Qualification Badge, and Overseas Service Bar.

Arick is remembered by family and friends as having a larger than life personality and a contagious smile. He understood the importance of family and was a role model for his two brothers and six cousins. Although Arick spent much of his life in South Portland, ME, he was very excited to return to New Hampshire after his service, to attend college and begin a new chapter of his life with his fiancée.

Our Nation can never adequately thank this young hero for his willingness to heed the call to defend the American people and our way of life. I hope that, even in these dark days, Arick's family can find comfort in knowing that all Americans share a